

Fractora's RF Technology Achieves Effective Fractional Resurfacing



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75 year old female before Tx



75 year old female after one Fractora Tx session

Photos courtesy of Thomas Loeb, M.D.

By Sean McKinney, Contributing Editor

When first introduced, CO₂ based laser resurfacing emerged as the gold standard for skin rejuvenation. However, it quickly lost its appeal due to post-procedure recovery issues and long-term side effects – particularly loss of pigment. Recently, fractionated lasers restored the popularity of skin resurfacing by offering a more palatable recovery and reducing pigmentary loss. Unfortunately, the trade-off included shorter-term, less dramatic outcomes.

Now, practitioners are taking advantage of a new dimension in treatment: Fractora radiofrequency (RF) fractional resurfacing from Invasix Ltd. (Yokneam, Israel). Allowing greater flexibility for fractional RF ablative resurfacing through interchangeable tips that vary based on configuration (60, 20 and 126 pins), depth of penetration and density, this device overcomes the limitations of CO₂, Erbium and certain other fractionated lasers. Coined "Designer Dermis", physicians can tailor results based on skin tone, condition and patient recovery preferences.

Fractora delivers RF energy to the skin through an array of pins, which produce localized heat and small micro-lesion points in the treatment area. In addition to the fractional ablative injury, gentle heat generated at the end of the ablative pulse travels to the deeper dermal layers to the negatively charged side electrodes that promote collagen restructuring for skin rejuvenation and an overall improved appearance. The fractional method scattering of micro-lesions allows the skin to heal faster than if the entire area were ablated.

"In essence, I think Fractora does a better job because it goes deeper and combines ablative and non-ablative RF," said Thomas Loeb, M.D., a plastic surgeon in New York, N.Y. "RF influences all of the skin underneath, not just where

the pins penetrate and heat the skin. Traditional laser fractional therapy only influences the tissue under or next to the point of ablation. The secondary heating next to this point is not as well controlled as with Fractora's RF method."

Invasix was founded in 2008 to provide safe and effective in-demand solutions for aesthetic procedures. Michael Kriendel, Ph.D., the company's co-founder and chief technology officer – also the co-founder of Syneron and developer of elōs technology – has overcome the limitations of light by complementing it with RF. As a result, Invasix's development team has established numerous patents and applications protecting unique, advanced RF technologies. Other products include BodyTite and TiteFX. BodyTite is a surgical, RF-assisted form of liposuction and TiteFX is a non-invasive body contouring procedure. Both have been cleared by Health Canada and are pending FDA approval.

Fractora is considered a non-invasive skin resurfacing and restoration treatment that has been approved by the FDA and Health Canada. It treats a wide-range of patient conditions, including acne scarring in patients with ethnic skin. "I use this technology primarily to treat wrinkles," said Dr. Loeb. "However, I am impressed by its versatility, enabling it be used for a variety of indications."

One of Fractora's key mechanisms of action, also not available from fractional laser technology, is a stimulating effect in the deep tissues. The tightening effects are due to deep RF being delivered into the skin. "It seems that the RF stimulation is optimal for initiating new collagen and thereby encouraging tightening," said Dr. Loeb. "Again, traditional fractional does not do this as well or with the same consistency."